

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     PRETOR 00259 141217Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03  
H-01 HA-05 SCS-06 /068 W  
-----015892 141222Z /10

R 141142Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0205  
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN POUCH  
AMCONSUL DURBAN POUCH  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG POUCH  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 0259

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CASC, EAIR, AO  
SUBJECT: RELEASE BY ANGOLANS OF U.S. REGISTERED AIRCRAFT  
AND PILOT

REF: STATE 7040

1. EMBASSY ECON OFFICER CONTACTED HEWARTSON JANUARY 12  
TO CLARIFY QUESTION OF FINE FOR RELEASE OF AIRCRAFT (REFTEL).  
HEWARTSON STATED THAT ONCE HE PROVED THAT HE WAS  
SOUTH AFRICAN AND NOT AMERICAN, ANGOLAN OFFICIALS HAD  
BEEN PREPARED TO RELEASE HIM, BUT HE WAS TOLD RELEASE OF  
PLANE WOULD REQUIRE PAYMENT OF PENALTY, AMOUNT OF WHICH  
WAS NEVER SPECIFIED. HEWARTSON STATES THAT AT INSISTENCE  
OF ANGOLAN OFFICIALS, HE, ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS AND FOR  
VARIOUS PURPOSES (E.G., CABLES), GAVE THEM EIGHT SIGNED  
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CHECKS DRAWN ON HIS PERSONAL RAND ACCOUNT WITH A SOUTH  
AFRICAN BANK WITH THE AMOUNT LEFT BLANK. HE DOES NOT  
RECALL ANY ONE OF THESE WAS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED TO  
COVER "FINE" BUT ALL WERE ASSOCIATED WITH FEES TO GET  
HIM AND PLANE OUT. FACT AMOUNT LEFT BLANK DID NOT  
GREATLY CONCERN HIM AS THERE WERE ONLY LIMITED FUNDS IN  
THE ACCOUNT, AND HE DOUBTED BANK WOULD HONOR THEM.

HEWARTSON MET ITALIAN AMBASSADOR JUST BEFORE DEPARTURE FROM LUANDA AND WAS TOLD BY HIM THAT SUM OF MONEY HAD BEEN PAID FOR RELEASE OF AIRCRAFT. HEWARTSON STATED THE AMOUNT PAID WAS NOT SPECIFIED AND HE HEARD OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR FIGURE ONLY AFTER HE HAD LEFT ANGOLA.

2. COMMENT: HEWARTSON RESISTED USE OF WORD "FINE" TO DESCRIBE PAYMENTS MADE, BUT THERE APPEARS LITTLE QUESTION THAT HE WAS AWARE THAT AIRCRAFT RELEASE WAS DEPENDENT ON PAYMENT OF SOME MONEY TO GOA. POSSIBLY ANGOLANS WROTE FIGURE OF R8,700 INTO ONE OF CHECKS HE HAD SIGNED AND GAVE IT TO ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN EXCHANGE FOR \$10,000. IN THIS EVENT, SINCE SUCH HEWARTSON CHECK WILL NOT CLEAR, Lisle WOULD PRESUMABLY NEED TO REIMBURSE ITALIANS. END COMMENT

3. IN REGARD TO OVERALL EPISODE, HEWARTSON REITERATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED CLEARANCE FOR OVERFLIGHT VIA RADIO FROM LUANDA AIR CONTROL. HE STATED HE WAS THIRTY MILES OUT TO SEA WHEN INTERCEPTED. WHEN HE LATER POINTED THIS OUT TO CUBANS WHO QUESTIONED HIM, HE WAS TOLD THAT GOA CLAIMS JURISDICTION OVER ALL AIRSPACE OFF ANGOLAN COAST COVERED BY ANGOLAN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SECTOR. AT SOME POINTS, THIS REPORTEDLY EXTENDS NEARLY 300 MILES OUT TO SEA. HEWARTSON FELT STRONGLY THAT HE HAD BEEN INTERCEPTED ONLY BECAUSE AIRCRAFT WAS AMERICAN REGISTERED. CONFIDENTIAL

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IN SUPPORT OF THIS, HE POINTED OUT THAT HE HAD MADE SAME TRIP THREE MONTHS AGO IN SOUTH AFRICAN REGISTERED AIRCRAFT WITHOUT PROBLEM AND ONCE HE PROVED HE WAS SOUTH AFRICAN, ANGOLANS WERE WILLING TO RELEASE HIM. HE BELIEVES ANY U.S. REGISTERED AIRCRAFT IS IN POTENTIAL DANGER FLYING ANYWHERE NEAR ANGOLAN COAST. BOWDLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT DETENTION, AIRCRAFT PILOTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PRETOR00259  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DECLASSIFIED PER 5/2/79 MEMO FROM L/AF - NANCY H. ELY  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780022-0815  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PRETORIA  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 7040  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3774390  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RELEASE BY ANGOLANS OF U.S. REGISTERED AIRCRAFT AND PILOT  
**TAGS:** CASC, EAIR, AO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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